

## SAFETY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 18, 2009

10:00 – Call to order, Welcome, and, Prayer by George Byrd  
Council review of 01/12/09 meeting minutes

Motion was made to accept minutes from January 2009 meeting by Steven Williams and seconded by Greg Chatham. Motion passed.

Phil Hines, Sqwincher representative gave the council a presentation on Heat Stress and on his products: Sqwincher and a trauma/first aid kit.

Motion to investigate what is needed acquire some type of trauma/first aid response kit was made by Steven Williams and seconded by Greg Chatham. Motion Carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Gerry Farmer updated the issue of Defibrulators being placed in certain locations. Stated that in light of the current budget situation, it is unlikely that the money would be spent on this equipment. It was determined that 10 units would be sufficient (one for each district, one for the state office, one for the FTC, and an extra).

Dwight Arbuckle brought up the RTV issue and asked that a letter be sent to the Equipment Committee outlining our support for the RTV's instead of ATV due to the increased safety of our employees.

John Walker gave the council an update on the number of accidents, worker's comp claims and tort claims. To date we are below the numbers posted for last year at this time.

Each district representative gave updates on safety in their district.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Gerry Farmer brought the council up to date on the physical fitness policy that the Board of Commissioners is considering for the MFC. The current edition is under some revision and the final version should be available to the BOC at their next scheduled meeting. George Byrd suggested that they take a close look at those employees who are hurt on the job and then return and the eligibility under the ADA.

George Byrd reminded all member to make sure the 181.5 are removed and replaced with one for the new fiscal year.

Greg Chatham reminded everyone to be aware of the high heat indexes and to make sure that work schedules are adjusted to accommodate employees to keep them safe. The bulk purchase of electrolyte replacing drinks and water was discussed since it could be obtained cheaper that way. Also asked about replacing work boots with the new fire tech boots. Field staff really like them.

Bob Ponder brought up Lyme disease and its consequences. Reminded everyone to make sure that they cover this in their safety meetings.

Greg Rolison brought snake issues and that leggings are not practical on a fire, but everyone needs to be aware and take precautions.

ECD representative brought up West Nile Virus and asked that this also be presented at district safety meetings. Also asked if mosquito spray can be bulk purchased.

Steven Williams reminded our committee officers to keep Lisa Harris updated on our meeting minutes. She posts them to our web page.

Several representatives discussed the numbers to be placed on county units for identification purposes while on wild fires.

Garron Hicks suggested that crews bring an ice chest with rags/towels that can be iced down to cool down over heated employees.

Election of a council Secretary was held. Nominated were: Greg Chatham, Garron Hicks, and Carter Mascagni. Dwight Arbuckle made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Garron Hicks, motion carried. After voting of all members, it was decided that Garron Hicks be picked. Motion made by Steven Williams, seconded by Greg Chatham. Motion Carried.

George Byrd officially handed over the chairmanship of the council to Greg Chatham.

Next meeting was scheduled for August 13, 2009, 10:00 am at the Fire Training Center.

Motion to adjourn made by Greg Chatham, seconded by Jan Baker. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.